



Dr Chris Llewelyn

Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive

**Cymdeithas Llywodraeth Leol Cymru
Welsh Local Government Association**

Un Rhodfa'r Gamlas

Heol Dumballs

Caerdydd

CF10 5BF

Ffôn: 029 2046 8600

One Canal Parade

Dumballs Road

Cardiff

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Tel: 029 2046 8600

Ein Cyf / Our Ref:

Dyddiad / Date: 13th August 2024

Gofynnwch am / Please ask for: Tim Peppin

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Chair – Petitions Committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff CF99 1SN

Dear Chair

Petition P-06-1409 Road charging in Wales

Thank-you for your letter of 17th July regarding the above petition. Officers in the WLGA have contacted all 22 councils and asked them to inform us if they are implementing road charging or currently exploring how they might take this forward. Based on responses received to date, our understanding is that the only council where a road user payment scheme is under active consideration is Cardiff, where their work on this has been well publicised. The North Wales Transport Commission also looked at the issue for the region. It acknowledged the role road user charging can play in raising revenue to support a more sustainable transport network, and suggested is likely to play a part in transport across the region in the future.

In 2020, Cardiff Council issued a Transport White Paper which outlined its vision for transport in the city to 2030. Road user charging was identified as an option in the Paper. A detailed report setting out the issues went to the council's Cabinet in April 2023 and can be viewed here: [CARDIFF COUNCIL \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/councils/cardiff/council/cabinet/2023-04-20/road-user-charging-in-wales). It refers the 2020 Turner Report ([Independent review of road user charging in Wales | GOV.WALES](https://www.gov.wales/government/turner-report)) which considered the merits of road user charging across Wales. That report concluded that it could be an effective measure as part of a sustainable transport system, but would require different approaches in different areas. The

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Ni fydd defnyddio'r naill iaith na'r llall yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English and will respond to correspondence in the same language. Use of either language will not lead to a delay.

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Turner Report was also considered by the North Wales Transport Commission.

A website has been launched covering the Cardiff proposals and can be viewed here: [Cardiff Road User Payment Scheme - Keeping Cardiff Moving](#). The draft 'target dates and milestones' on that site suggest that a Cabinet decision on this matter will be taken by the end of 2024 but, if progressed, implementation would be subject to Ministerial approval and not until 2027/28.

The Cardiff Cabinet report identified the reasons why demand management measures need to be considered to meet a wide range of policy objectives. It also highlights that some form of road user pricing is a matter for the UK government too, noting that the Office of Budget Responsibility has stated that receipts from fuel duties are: "...expected to continue on a downward trajectory [as a percentage of GDP], partly reflecting the move from petrol and diesel engine vehicles to battery powered electric vehicles (EVs)."

Therefore, although there may currently be only one council in Wales actively investigating road user payment, the evidence suggests it will be looked at more widely in future. The viability of any scheme(s) will depend on local circumstances and so opportunities will vary across Wales.

I hope this information is useful to you. If we *do* receive any information from councils indicating that they are exploring this issue, we will let you know.

Yours faithfully

A. Morgan

Councillor Andrew Morgan OBE

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